

The Heritage Society of Pacific Grove NEWSLETTER

Dedicated to Maintaining the Beauty and Individuality of Pacific Grove

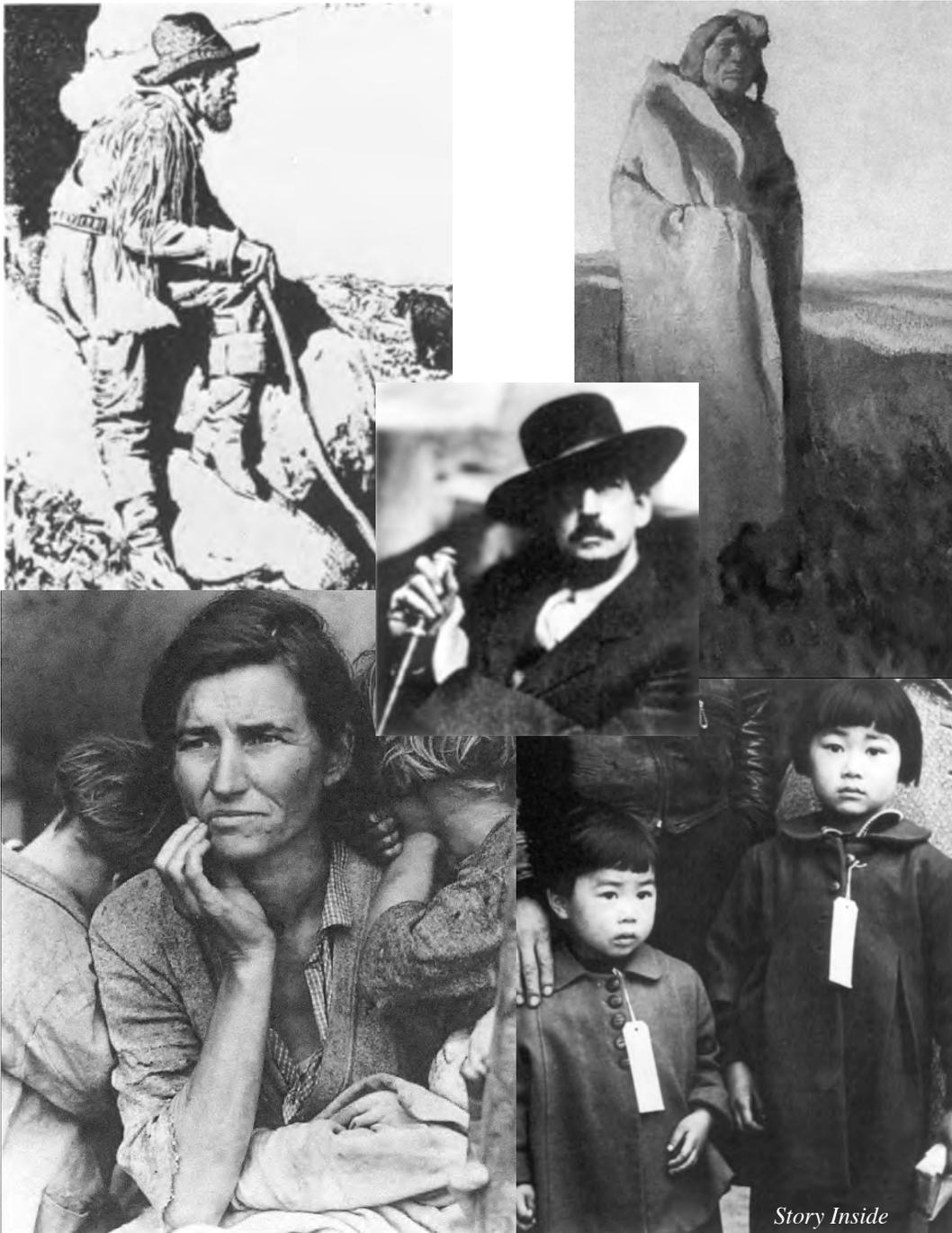
Volume 5, Issue 3

May, 2005



Artists, Writers, and Early PG Life Grist for Summer Lecture Series

by Ken Hinsbaw



Story Inside

Calendar

MAY

SECRET GARDEN TOUR

May 7, 10am - 4pm

HERITAGE HOUSE AWARDS

May 20, 7:00 pm

Museum of Natural History
Forest and Central Avenue
Free

PACIFIC GROVE: THE CHAUTAQUA YEARS (1879 - 1926)

An exhibit celebrating the
formative years of
Pacific Grove
and the 100th anniversary of
the Feast of Lanterns
Museum of Natural History
Forest and Central Avenue
Free

ANNUAL PLANT SALE: COOPER HISTORICAL GARDEN

May 21, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
525 Polk St., Monterey
Call Frances Grate: 372-6410

JUNE

6th ANNUAL SUMMER LECTURE SERIES

Daniel Dixon
Son of Dorthea Lange and
Maynard Dixon
Friday, June 24, 7 pm
Pacific Grove Performing Arts
Center
Members: FREE
Non-members: \$5

QUILT SHOW

June 11 and 12, 10am - 5pm
Monterey Peninsula College
College Center 980 Fremont,
Monterey, CA
\$5 general admission
Free: children 12 and under

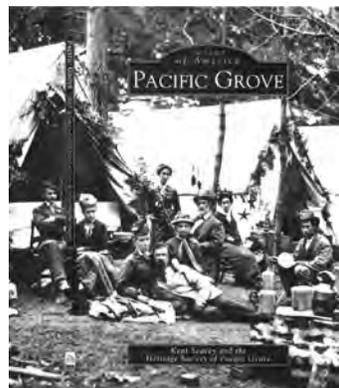


Photos of early Pacific Grove from the Tuttle collection, Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History

This summer's Lecture Series is sure to be one of the most memorable, because of the strong program and beautiful venue. Depression era photographer Dorothea Lange and her husband Western artist Maynard Dixon will be the subject of a presentation given by their son, Daniel Dixon of Carmel, on June 24. The lecture has been given to small audiences on the Peninsula to rave reviews and standing ovations. Their personal and professional lives will be explored with illustrations and dramatic readings from letters by Dixon and his wife Dixie.

The other summer lectures (dates to be announced) include a book release lecture celebrating Kent Seavey's *Images of America Series: Pacific Grove*. This soft cover book is a pictorial history of everyday life in the early days of Pacific Grove. The book features many images never before published from the

Tuttle and private collections. Historian Kent Seavey will be signing copies of the book that will be offered for sale. Your Heritage Society receives a portion of the sale price of \$19.99. The publisher will initially be printing only 1500 copies, so be sure to get yours as they are sure to go fast. Kent Seavey has a well earned reputation as a dynamic lecturer.



Images of America Series: Pacific Grove

Also on our lecture schedule is Susan Shillinglaw of the Center for Steinbeck Studies at San Jose State University.

Professor Shillinglaw is the author of many books and articles on John Steinbeck and comes highly recommended. Her talk will focus on the very productive years Steinbeck lived and worked in Pacific Grove during the Depression.



John Steinbeck

All lectures will be held in the beautifully refurbished Pacific Grove Performing Arts Center (Middle School Auditorium) on Forest Ave. There will be plenty of comfortable seats for everyone. The series is free to Heritage Society members; non-members may purchase

membership at the door or pay a one time ticket price of \$5. This is an opportunity to get a membership, along with the Heritage Society's fine monthly newsletter. And the other lectures will be free!

kbinsba2@aol.com

On the Cover

Clockwise from top left: Maynard Dixon, Illustration for "The land of Purple Shadows", Ida M. Strobridge, 1909; "The Ancient" by Maynard Dixon, 1915; "Hayward" by Dorothea Lange, 1942; "Migrant Mother Nipomo, California" by Dorothea Lange, 1936; "Maynard Dixon" by George Hurrell, 1925

All opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official positions of the Board of Directors, but are meant to stimulate interest in and discussion of preservation issues.

Annual Heritage House Awards

by Darlene Billstrom

The beautiful white house shown here on Central Avenue was one of the Heritage House Award winners last year, along with 104 1st Avenue, the Julia Morgan House. It was quite an entertaining evening last May when Polly Moore, owner of 104 1st Avenue, Gretchen Flesher, the architect, and Mark Travaille, the contrac-



tor, described the ups and downs of restoring the Julia Morgan house.

This year's program will be just as entertaining. Mr. Tuttle* will honor us with his presence describing his early life in PG and sharing his remarkable collection of photographs of our fledging town, his family, and his drug store. He took these wonderful photos in the early 1900's.

We had a bumper crop of nominations this year. A panel of judges that includes architects, builders, citizens, and the City's Community Development Department members selects the winners. These awards honor people who have restored their homes in an exemplary fashion (including additions), those who have built new homes capturing the flavor Pacific Grove, and those

who have improved buildings in the business district. We also honor those who have maintained their homes in a manner that contributes to our outstanding inventory of historic homes. The competition is very spirited. There will be before and after slides of each award winner and a short talk by the homeowner.

Please join us at the 28th Heritage House Awards for a fun and informative evening on May 20th, 7:00 p.m. at the Museum of Natural History, located at Forest and Central in the heart of Pacific Grove.

* portrayed by actor Kevin Hanstack

billstrm@pacbell.net

Letter from the President

The Heritage Society's Board of Directors held a retreat on Saturday, April 2, to assess the past year and plan goals for the coming year. All agreed it was a successful year that furthered preservation in Pacific Grove. There were our annual fundraisers such as the Historic Home Tour, Artists in Chautauqua, Christmas at the Inns, and the Victorian Dinner. All were quite successful and allowed us to continue sending out the *Board and Batten* and the *Newsletter*; publications we are justifiably proud of. In addition, we had a very successful, invitation only, wine and cheese party at Trimmer Hill.

Our fundraisers enabled us to continue the green plaque program, the awarding of bronze plaques and certificates to outstanding preservation projects at the annual House Awards ceremony, and the Summer Lecture Series. One of our most

successful lectures featured antique experts to evaluate our treasures.

The board members were most proud of sponsoring the college intern, Nat Rojanasathira, to organize the Historic Housing Inventory. In the two months that we sponsored him, Nat accomplished far more than expected. He installed a database designed to contain information about our historic structures in the format the State of California Office of Preservation requires. Then he entered the 1200-plus houses into that database and produced a CD for the Library, for the Community Development Department, and for the Heritage Society. He also produced an instruction booklet on how to use this database. Other cities have spent over \$11,000 for this same work; Nat accomplished everything for a fraction of that cost. Thank you Nat.

As a result of having a database for our research use, a group of kind friends to the Heritage Society donated a new Dell computer and printer. The Heritage Society is entering the 21st Century. We hope to have a brand new web page and DSL connection in the coming year to go with our new computing power.

What's in store for the coming year? The first event on our agenda is The Secret Garden Tour. It was sad that we weren't able to hold it last year, but we are right on schedule this year, and it promises to be better than ever. On May 20th the Heritage Home Awards evening will be held at the Museum. The Summer Lecture Series promises to be very interesting. The Victorian Dinner, Historic Home Tour, Artists in Chautauqua, and Christmas at the Inns will occur as usual. The Board members felt that we must

See Letter next page

Museum Lecture Series

Tuesday evenings at 7 pm, June 18 – October 8, 2005
Museum of Natural History, Forest and Central Avenue, Free
Opening reception on Saturday, June 18, 7 pm

- June 21, Phil Nash, Chautauqua Movement & Ice Cream Social
- June 28, Vern Yadon, Museum's History
- July 5, Neal Hotelling, Was PG a PCD by PBC?
- July 12, Pat Hathaway, 19th Century California Photographers
- July 19, Bill Hyler, Memories of Elmarie Dyke
- July 26, Kent Seavey, Wanderings in the Grove & Book Signing
- August 2, Tom Uretsky, PGPD's History
- August 9, Jon Biggs, Community Development Dept. History
- August 16, Steve Leiker, PG Public Works History
- August 23, Jerry Robinson, PGFD History
- August 30, to be announced
- Sept. 6, Bruce Obbink, PG Golf Dept. History
- Sept. 13, Audubon Society
- Sept. 20, Carlos Olvera, History of El Carmelo Cemetery
- Sept. 27, Jean Chapin, PG Library History
- Oct. 4, Sandy Lydon, The Chinese & Japanese in Monterey County

Letter Cont'd

add some additional fundraisers if we want to continue sponsoring an intern to work on our Historic Housing Inventory and construct the Whistle Stop at Asilomar. The first proposed fundraiser is the soon-to-be-released Arcadia Press Book: *Pacific Grove*. This should be on sale in mid June 2005. Watch the *Newsletter* for more upcoming events.

The Swan boat display is working through City permits, and we hope that it will be installed at Lovers Point in the coming year. The Museum of Natural History will soon feature *The Chautauqua Years* exhibit. Betty Aickelin continues researching the history of houses; Bob Davis continues to compile the Table of Contents and Index for all the *Board and Battens*, and a group of energetic Society members are planning to clean up the barn and catalog its contents.

Last year was a busy year and next year promises to be even busier. We need volunteers to help with all these plans, so if you have the time and inclination, please contact us.

Paul Finnegan, President

Bye, Bye, Bradbury

Bruce Bradbury, Founder and President of Bradbury & Bradbury Art Wallpapers, plans to close his Benicia, California, hand-print shop at the end of 2005. "We know that many clients currently have plans to use our wallpapers, so we are giving everyone a full year's notice before closing the print shop," says Bruce. "I will be here until we print our last roll of wallpaper, and we will give all our orders the same attention to detail as the first roll of wallpaper I printed over 30 years ago."

The company will take orders for wallpaper until December 31, 2005. For ordering information call (707) 746-1900 or visit www.Bradbury.com. "Both the print studio and customer service will remain open until the last roll of wallpaper has been printed and delivered," says Bradbury.

*Old-House Journal,
January/February 2005*

At Last Works Begins on Chautauqua Hall

by Ken Hinsbaw

Two of our most experienced local contractors, Mark Travaille and Steve Honegger, have teamed up to do long awaited repairs on Chautauqua Hall. The floor supports on the south side have been damaged by moisture caused by the "improvements" done about 25 years ago: A deck was constructed against the wood siding with an inadequate drainage system. As a consequence, the underside of the whole building tends to be very wet, which needs repair.

All jazzercise, tango, drumming and other exorbitant activities have been temporarily relocated while hammering and sawing take its place.

Kbinsba2@aol.com

Newsletter Staff

Publisher

Maryanne Spradling

Graphics

Billstrom Enterprises

Typesetting

A Volunteer

Contributing Authors

Ken Hinshaw

Paul Finnegan

Darlene Billstrom

Send your submissions to:

Maryanne Spradling

The Heritage Society

of Pacific Grove

P.O. Box 1007

Pacific Grove, CA 93950



Chatauqua Hall

Send your submissions to:
Maryanne Spradling
The Heritage Society
of Pacific Grove
P.O. Box 1007
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

THE HERITAGE
OF
PACIFIC GROVE
P.O. Box 1007
Pacific Grove, CA 93950



Nonprofit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 30
Pacific Grove,
CA 93950